GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:114
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
REVAMPING TO PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
ARUN KUMAR;BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA;RAMCHANDRA PASWAN;RAVI PRAKASH VERMA;REENA CHOUDHARY;SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy granted to the P.D.S. and the amount actually goes up to the poors; (

(b) whether any appraisal of the working of PDS in the country has been made; (

(c) if so, the result thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to safeguard the i nterest of poor people;

(d) whether there is any proposal to remove the economically well off families from the ambit of the PDS; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the criteria will be adopted for identifying the persons as economically well off?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

(a) The amount of subsidies borne by the Central Government for providing PDS commoditiesviz., foodgrains, sugar, Edible Oil and Kerosene under Public Distribution System (PDS) during the current year 1999-2000 (Revised Estimates) are as follows:

Commodities	Amount (Rs. in crores)
Foodgrains	8200
Sugar	235
Edible Oil	50
Kerosene	5970 (1998-99)

Government does not pay any subsidy directly to the consumers. In the present form of PDS, population living above poverty line (APL) is also extended the benefits of subsidisedfoodgrains and other essential commodities and the benefit of subsidy is not received by the people below poverty line (BPL) alone.

(b) & (c) : Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced in June, 1997foodgrains are provided to the States/Union Territories at highly Subsidised Central IssuePrice (CIP) for issue to the people living below poverty line (BPL) @ 10 kg per family per month. Demands have been raised from various quarters that the provision of only 10 kg. per month per family to BPL population is not adequate. Under TPDS a consensus is needed forproviding more foodgrains to BPL families given the constraints of availability of foodgrains and subsidy.

(d) & (e) No, Sir.